

And on top of it all, LeRoy recently found time to make a 150-mile bicycle trip with his wife Carolyn and 10 other family members in support of MS research.

LeRoy is a man of loyalty, conviction, and fortitude. He commands great respect and great affection. He has an enviable capacity for warmth and kindness and is driven by his value for hard work. He stands firm in what he believes and yet finds common ground where there are differences, using a welcoming approach and a friendly smile to bring people together. And if all else fails, he'll make you laugh, mostly at his own expense, by poking fun at himself.

Today, at this bittersweet moment, it is with gratitude and admiration that I stand before you to honor LeRoy's longstanding contributions to the people of Minnesota through his years of service as commissioner of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF BELFIELD, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 125th anniversary. From July 11 to July 13, the residents of Belfield, ND, will celebrate their community's history and founding.

Belfield is situated along the banks of the Heart River in western North Dakota. As the westward expansion of the Northern Pacific Railroad progressed, settlers established this community and first identified it as Fort Houston. Belfield is said to have later adopted its current name after Belle Field, the daughter of a railroad engineer.

Belfield offers visitors and residents fresh air and beautiful scenery. From Custer's Trail and Initial Rock, to Belfield Dam and the Maah Daah Hey Trail, Belfield has a wealth of outdoor recreational activities. This gateway to the west is also birthplace of North Dakota Supreme Court Judge Herbert L. Meschke.

To celebrate its 125th anniversary, Belfield is organizing a weekend filled with events such as a parade, class reunions, a demolition derby, a steak fry, historical photo and pottery displays, and games for all ages. Belfield will also be host to the Black Daggers, a U.S. Army Special Operations Command Parachute Demonstration Team. The team will be performing parachute jumps throughout the weekend at various locations. It will no doubt add a breathtaking element to this celebration.

Mr. President, I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Belfield, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well in the future. By honoring Belfield and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is

places such as Belfield that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Belfield has a proud past and a bright future.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF MENOKEN, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased to honor a community in North Dakota that recently celebrated its 125th anniversary. On June 21, the residents of Menoken gathered to celebrate their community and its historic founding.

Menoken is located in Burleigh County, just a few miles from the State capital. Although its population is small, Menoken holds an important place in our State's history. As the first tracks of the Northern Pacific Railroad were being laid across North Dakota, the Seventeenth Siding was marked; later to be known as what is now Menoken. Upon the completion of the railroad, settlers from Maine occupied the territory and named the town Blaine, after Maine Senator James G. Blaine. Once more the town's name was changed to Clark, and then finally secured as Menoken.

The citizens of Menoken take great pride in their community enriched with history. The town is home to the Menoken Indian Village, which is a preserved prehistoric earthlodge village that dates back to the early 13th century A.D. In addition, the battle-grounds of General Sibley's campaign of 1863 are located near Menoken. These two landmarks are among many of the town's sacred keepsakes that resemble the very essence of North Dakota.

The 125th anniversary celebration included a school tour, fashion show, and parade. It was followed by a horseshoe tournament, tractor pull, and old-time music. Once evening set in, people witnessed an exceptional cavalry reenactment. It was no doubt a day unlike any other.

Mr. President, I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Menoken, ND, and its residents on their 125th anniversary and in wishing them well for the future. By honoring Menoken and all other towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering, frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Menoken that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Menoken has a proud past and a bright future.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF MICHIGAN, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 125th anniversary. On July 24 through July 27, the residents of Michigan will celebrate their community's history and founding.

Michigan is a small town with a population of 345 residents located in Nelson County in northeastern North Dakota. It was established on January 2, 1883, with the completion of its post office with C.J. Bondurant as postmaster. Soon after its establishment, railroad tracks were completed, and, in March of 1883, the first train reached Michigan. The town quickly became known as a trading center. With the railroads came more people, who built businesses, churches and schools. The settlers began to cultivate the land and raise crops. Agriculture soon became the center of their economy and remains so to this day.

Today, Michigan remains a proud community that has a prosperous economy consisting of farming, manufacturing industries, and retail businesses. Residents of Michigan are known for their honesty, strong work ethic, and living off the land. It is a great place for enjoying the outdoors all year round, including hunting, cross-country skiing, fishing, boating, and camping. Michigan Days is a highlight each summer. During Michigan Days, the residents enjoy live music, a softball tournament, street dances, a tractor pull, and ice cream socials.

As part of the weekend anniversary celebration residents will be able to go to the interesting Dakota Mysteries and Oddities Museum. Michigan will also hold a golf tournament at the Duffers Club and dedicate the Veteran's Memorial Building for all the brave residents of Michigan who have served in past wars. Several other wonderful activities will be taking place throughout the weekend.

Mr. President, I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Michigan, ND, and its residents on their 125th anniversary and in wishing them well in the future. By honoring Michigan and all the other historic towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Michigan that have helped shape this country into what it is today, which is why this community is deserving of our recognition.

Michigan has a proud past and a bright future.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF MILNOR, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I wish to recognize a community in North Dakota that will be celebrating its 125th anniversary. On July 18-20, the residents of Milnor will gather to celebrate their community's history and founding.

During the summer of 1863, Henry Hastings Sibley and his army camped on the shore of Storm Lake—Camp Buel—and about 20 years later, in 1883, Milnor was established on that historical site. Milnor was named after William E. Milnor, the first telegrapher at the Milnor Station and WM Milnor Roberts, a famous civil engineer of the